

**Coal mining given to private entrepreneurs**

**4257. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:** Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that mining of coal is being given to private entrepreneurs;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) the total number of mines where mining work is going on under Government monopoly till date; and
- (d) the details of the mines which are being exploited under open-cast mining and underground mining?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN):** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per present statute, captive mining blocks are allotted to the private public sector companies who are engaged in generation of power, manufacture of iron & steel and production of cement, to meet their coal requirement. For this purpose, 119 blocks 113 under command area of Coal India Limited (CIL) and 6 in command area of Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) have been identified out of which 26 blocks under CIL command area stand allotted as on date.

(c) and (d) The number of working mines in CIL and SCCL is given below:-

	CIL	SCCL
Opencast	141	10
Underground	307	56
Mixed	38	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>66</b>